

# MENTOR MICHIGAN DIRECTORY

## ST. JOSEPH COUNTY

This listing for St. Joseph County is organized first by programs that serve the entire county, and second by programs serving a specific city within this county. The cities are listed alphabetically.

### COUNTY-WIDE

#### **ExperienceSeniorPower.com**

Tony Fama

Maria Madeline Project, Inc.

24630 Scotia Boulevard

Oak Park, Michigan 48237

Phone: (248) 398-6438

Fax: (248) 692-0391

Email: [tony.fama@experienceseniorpower.com](mailto:tony.fama@experienceseniorpower.com)

#### **Program Description:**

Through ExperienceSeniorPower.com, children and senior citizens learn computer and job skills together. Children receive an adult role model through these "adoptive grandparent" relationships and seniors have the opportunity to contribute their life experience and knowledge. This program includes one-on-one, group, team, and e-mentoring activities. Senior volunteers are expected to make a one year commitment during morning, afternoon, or weekend hours.

#### **Michiana Big Brothers Big Sisters**

Jane Ludington

24 North Monroe Street, Suite B

Coldwater, Michigan 49036

Phone: (517) 278-2434

Fax: (517) 278-2434

Email: [bbbsa@cbpu.com](mailto:bbbsa@cbpu.com)

#### **Program Description:**

The Michiana BBBS Community Program matches youth ages six through 17, primarily from single parent homes, with adult roles model. The mentors provide guidance and understanding to help the youth grow into healthy, productive members of their community. The School-Based Program provides elementary children, referred by school personnel, with an adult friend for one hour per week at school during the school year. This program focuses on academics as well as social and self esteem needs. Volunteer mentors are expected to make a one year commitment, which involves two to four hours per month.

## **COUNTY-WIDE CONTINUED**

### **Michigan Youth Leadership Forum**

William Milzarski

320 North Washington Square, Suite 250

Lansing, Michigan 48913

Phone: (877) 499-6232

Fax: (877) 499-6232

Email: [MilzarskiW@Michigan.gov](mailto:MilzarskiW@Michigan.gov)

[www.MYLF.org](http://www.MYLF.org)

#### **Program Description:**

The Michigan Youth Leadership Forum involves 35 high school students that have disabilities. The students are integrated with other students and adults with disabilities to learn leadership, social skills, and citizenship. The program involves one-on-one, team, and peer mentoring and takes place during one week during the summer. The program is managed by the Michigan Commission on Disability Concerns. Volunteers are expected to commit to one full week in the summer and follow up activities.

### **St. Joseph County Family Independence Agency**

Margaret Shultz

692 East Main Street

Centreville, Michigan 49032

Phone: (269) 467-1240

Fax: (269) 467-1229

Email: [shultzm@michigan.gov](mailto:shultzm@michigan.gov)

#### **Program Description:**

FIA volunteer mentors are matched one-on-one with elementary, middle, and high school children who are in the foster care system or have recently left foster care. The principal role of a mentor is to provide friendship. For the older foster children and the young adults who have recently left foster care, mentors also serve as role models for the development of life skills. Volunteer mentors are expected to make a one year commitment, which involves one hour per week during morning, afternoon, evening, or weekend hours.

## **COUNTY-WIDE CONTINUED**

### **Volunteer Centers of Michigan**

Judy Tymowicz

1048 Pierpont, Suite 3

Lansing, Michigan 48911

Phone: (517) 492-2430

Fax: (517) 492-2444

Email: [tymowicz@mivolunteers.org](mailto:tymowicz@mivolunteers.org)

#### **Program Description:**

Volunteer Centers recruit, train, and place volunteers in nonprofit organizations throughout their service area. They are inclusive, serving all nonprofits and residents—they do not limit their service to a particular issue, group of people, or type of activity. Michigan's Volunteer Centers are all prepared to assist mentors find organizations where they can volunteer. Volunteer Centers often take a leadership position in convening organizations and individuals to find solutions to complex community issues. They live their belief that people enrich their own lives and strengthen their communities through volunteer service.

## **THREE RIVERS**

### **Three Rivers Area Mentoring**

Charlene Zavala

25 Railroad Drive

Three Rivers, Michigan 49093

Phone: (269) 278-8726

Fax: (269) 278-8726

Email: [tram@core.com](mailto:tram@core.com)

#### **Program Description:**

Through one-to-one relationships between mentors and elementary, middle, and high school students, T.R.A.M. empowers young people to pursue excellence, productivity, and responsibility. Students also work at successful school, friend, and family relationships and combat alcohol, other drugs, and violence. Mentors also promote academic and social skills. Spending time, not money, is the best way to demonstrate to a young person that s/he is an important, respected human being. T.R.A.M. also has an afterschool program. Volunteer mentors are expected to commit to one school year, which involves at least one hour per week at a time that accommodates their schedule.

## **MENTORING COLLABORATIVE**

Mentoring Collaboratives are community-wide resources for mentoring programs, people looking to become mentors, and youth who want a mentor or need access to mentoring services. A Collaborative serves as a coordinating body for mentoring activities in their service area, which could be city-wide, county-wide, or regional in focus. They provide awareness and education around mentoring issues and work to ensure that all age groups are represented and provided with mentoring services. Collaboratives are made up of the mentoring programs in their service area, and they meet regularly to share best practices, learn about new trends in the field, partner on projects, and learn from one another.

### **Human Services Commission – Mentoring Taskforce**

Liz O'Dell

St. Joseph County Human Services Commission

692 E. Main

Centreville, Michigan 49032

Phone: (269) 467-1298

Fax: (269) 467-4012

Email: [edell@net-link.net](mailto:edell@net-link.net)

## **MENTOR MICHIGAN VI STA**

The Mentor Michigan VI STA program supports Mentor Michigan's goal of recruiting 10,000 new mentors for Michigan youth. Through this program, 25 individuals will be serving full-time throughout Michigan to support the development of youth mentoring programs by:

- Identifying and securing resources to support the development and sustainability of mentoring programs.
- Recruiting mentors and connecting them with effective programs serving youth.
- Developing partnerships with business, faith-based and nonprofit organizations, education institutions, and government.
- Increasing public awareness about mentoring and the positive outcomes associated with it.
- Providing training and support for mentoring programs.

The Mentor Michigan VI STA program is managed by the Connect Michigan Alliance.

### **St. Joseph Human Service Commission**

Liz O'Dell

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Centreville, Michigan 49091

Phone: (269) 467-1298

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